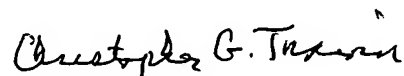


REMARKS

Claims 6-12 and 19-28 are currently pending in this application. By this amendment, non-elected Claims 1-5 and 13-18 have been canceled, without prejudice, Claims 8, 9 and 12 have been amended to correct typographical errors, and new dependent Claims 19-28 have been added. Applicants hereby reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the subject matter encompassed by non-elected Claims 1-5 and 13-18. No new matter has been added to this application by this amendment.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all claims pending in this application, namely Claims 6-12 and 19-28, are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner feel that a telephone or personal interview may facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, he is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's attorney at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher G. Trainor
Reg. No. 39,517
Attorney for Applicant(s)

CARTER, DELUCA, FARRELL & SCHMIDT, LLP
445 Broad Hollow Road - Suite 225
Melville, New York 11747
(631) 501-5700

Correspondence Address:
Chief Patent Counsel
Covidien
60 Middletown Avenue
North Haven, CT 06473